

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Please enter the following claims:

1 (currently amended)      An application program interface apparatus for a vehicle organization, the apparatus comprising:

- B
- a. means for receiving a read data request or a write data request or a request to perform an operation from a SQL relational database compatible client application regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle dealership;
  - b. means for managing communications connections and request queues;
  - c. first means for checking [[the]] a security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request;
  - d. means for transmitting the [[data]] request if the first checking means determines that the [[data]] request is valid;
  - e. means for receiving a data response from an access component, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  - f. second means for checking [[the]] a security authorization and control associated with the data response; and
  - g. means for transmitting the data response to the client application if the second checking means determines that the data response is valid.

2 (currently amended)      The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

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monitoring means to monitor all received [[data]] requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that contributes an application trigger and, in response to an application trigger, to generate and transmit an appropriate application trigger to activate an appropriate application.

3 (original)      The apparatus of claim 1 where the client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications and information broker company applications.

4 (currently amended)      The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second means for checking security authorization of the [[data]] request use identification authentication.

5 (original)      The apparatus of claim 1, where the first means for checking the security authorization comprises an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

6 (currently amended)      The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second means for checking security authorization authenticates the [[data]] request for authority to

access the target database and data elements in the database, and to read, write or operate thereon.

7 (canceled)

B1 8 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 where the ~~[[data]]~~ request and data ~~transmission~~ response are transmitted electronically using one means from the group comprising: the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, dial-up, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

9 (original) The apparatus of claim 1 where the access component is selected from the group comprising: ODBC, JDBC, Java adapter, and OLE DB.

10-27 (canceled)

28 (currently amended) A data view apparatus for a vehicle organization, the apparatus comprising:

- a. means for receiving a read data request, or a write data request or an operation request from a system domain server, such data request originating from a SQL relational database compatible client application and regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle dealership;

- B1
- b. means for extracting data from appropriate files and fields in [[a]] the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the operation request, the data response ~~being in appropriate format~~ having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  - c. means for writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application; and
  - d. means for transmitting the data responses to the server.

29 (currently amended)      The apparatus of claim 28 where the ~~target database~~ client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

30 (canceled)

31 (currently amended)      A data view method for a vehicle organization, the method comprising:

- a. receiving a read data request, a write data request, or an operation request from a system domain server, such [[data]] request originating from a SQL

relational database compatible client application and regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle dealership;

- B<sup>1</sup>
- b. extracting data from appropriate files and fields in [[a]] the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the operation request, the data response being in appropriate format having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  - c. writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application; and
  - d. transmitting the data responses to the server.

32 (currently amended)      The method of claim 31 where the ~~target database~~ client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

33 (canceled)

34 (currently amended) A data storage medium containing instructions, which when executed on a programmable apparatus, will cause the apparatus to perform a data interchange method for a vehicle organization, the method comprising:

- B1
- a. receiving a read data request, a write data request, or an operation request from a system domain server, such [[data]] request originating from a SQL relational database compatible client application and regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle dealership;
  - b. extracting data from appropriate files and fields in [[a]] the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the operation request, the data response ~~being in appropriate format~~ having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  - c. writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application; and
  - d. transmitting the data responses to the server.

35 (currently amended) The medium of claim 34 where the ~~target database~~ client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company

applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

36 (canceled)

37 (currently amended)      A data interchange system for a vehicle organization, the system comprising:

- B1
- a. an application program interface comprising
    - 1. means for receiving a read data request, a write data request, or a request to perform an operation, from a SQL relational database-compatible client application regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle-related organization;
    - 2. means for managing communications connections and request queues;
    - 3. first means for checking [[the]] a security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request;
    - 4. means for transmitting the [[data]] request if the first checking means determines that the [[data]] request is valid;

5. means for receiving a data response from an access component, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application;
6. second means for checking ~~[[the]]~~ a security authorization and control associated with the data response; and
7. means for transmitting the data response to the client application if the second checking means determines that the data response is valid;
- B1
- b. the access component, electronically communicating with the application program interface and a system domain server, with means to receive the ~~[[data]]~~ request and transmit it to ~~[[the]]~~ a system domain, and means to receive the data response and transmit it to the application program interface;
- c. the system domain, with means to receive the ~~[[data]]~~ request and transmit it to an interface component, and means to receive the data response and transmit it to the access component;
- d. the interface component comprising:
1. means for receiving the request ~~a read data request, a write data request, or an operation request~~ from ~~[[a]]~~ the system domain server, ~~such data request originating from a client application~~;



- B1
2. means for extracting data from appropriate files and fields in [[a]] the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the request to perform an operation, the data response being in appropriate format;
  3. means for writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response being in appropriate format; and
  4. means for transmitting the data responses to the server;

[[e.]] wherein the target database ~~communicating~~ communicates with the interface component.

38 (currently amended)      The system in claim 37, the application program interface further comprising:

monitoring means to monitor all received [[data]] requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and, in response to an application trigger, to generate and transmit an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application.

39 (canceled)

40 (canceled)

41 (canceled)

B1 42 (currently amended) The ~~data-interchange~~ system of claim 37 where the client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications collision repair applications and information broker company applications.

43 (currently amended) The ~~data-interchange~~ system of claim 37, further including means for checking access authorization of the [[data]] request.

44 (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 37, where the first means for checking the security authorization comprises an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

45 (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 37, wherein the first and second means for checking security authorization authenticates the [[data]] request for authority to access a database and data elements in the database.

46 (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 37, where the access component is selected from the group comprising; ODBC, JDBC, Java adapter, and OLE DB.

47 (currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 37, where the data base request and data ~~transmission~~ response are transmitted using one means from the group comprising, the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communications, local area networks,

wide-area networks, dial-up, optical fiber links, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite, communication, and exchange of removable media.

48 (currently amended)      A data interchange method for a vehicle organization, the method comprising:

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- a. an application program interfacing method comprising
    - 1. receiving a read data request, a write data request, or a request to perform an operation, from a SQL relational database-compatible client application regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle-related organization;
    - 2. managing communications connections and request queues;
    - 3. checking a security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request;
    - 4. transmitting the [[data]] request if checking the security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request determines that the [[data]] request is valid;
    - 5. receiving a data response from an access component, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application;

6. checking a security authorization and control associated with the data response; and
7. transmitting the data response to the client application if checking the security authorization and control associated with the data response determines that the data response is valid;
- b. communicating among the access component, an interface component and a system domain server;
- c. communicating between the system domain server and a data view apparatus;
- d. a data viewing method comprising:
1. receiving the request ~~a read data request, a write data request, or an operation request~~ from [[a]] the system domain server, ~~such data request originating from a client application;~~
  2. extracting data from appropriate files and fields in [[a]] the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the request to perform an operation, the data response ~~being in appropriate format~~ having a format that is compatible with the client application;

3. writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application; and
4. transmitting the data responses to the server; and
- e. communicating between the target database and the data view apparatus.

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49 (currently amended) The data interchange method in claim 48, further comprising:

monitoring all received [[data]] requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and, in response to an application trigger, generating and transmitting an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application.

50 (canceled)

51 (original) The data interchange method of claim 48 where the client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

52 (currently amended) The data interchange method of claim 48, further including checking access authorization of the [[data]] request.

53 (original) The data interchange method of claim 48 where the first means for checking the security authorization comprises an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

B' 54 (currently amended) The data interchange method of claim 48, wherein the first and second means for checking security authorization authenticates the [[data]] request for authority to access a database and data elements in the database.

55 (original) The data interchange method of claim 48, where the access component is selected from the group comprising: ODBC, JDBC, Java adapter, and OLE DB.

56 (currently amended) The data interchange method of claim 48, where the [[data]] request and data ~~transmission~~ response are transmitted using one means from the group comprising; the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, optic fibers, dial-up telecommunication line, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

57 (currently amended) A data storage medium containing instructions which, when executed on a programmable apparatus, will cause the apparatus to perform a data interchange method for a vehicle organization, the method comprising:

- a. an application program interfacing method comprising:

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1. receiving a read data request, a write data request, or a request to perform an operation, from a SQL relational database-compatible client application regarding a target database, the target database being a flat or multi-value database incompatible with the client application, the target database being at least in part associated with a vehicle-related organization;
  2. managing communications connections and request queues;
  3. checking a security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request;
  4. transmitting the [[data]] request if checking the security authorization and control associated with the [[data]] request determines that the [[data]] request is valid;
  5. receiving a data response from an access component, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  6. checking a security authorization and control associated with the data response; and
  7. transmitting the data response to the client application if checking the security authorization and control associated with the data response determines that the data response is valid;

- b. communicating among the access component, an interface component and a system domain server;
- c. communicating between the system domain server and a data view apparatus;
- d. a data viewing method comprising:
1. receiving the request ~~a read data request, a write data request, or an operation request~~, from ~~[[a]]~~ the system domain server, ~~such data request originating from a client application~~;
  2. extracting data from appropriate files and fields in ~~[[a]]~~ the target database, and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to build a data response to the read data request or the request to perform an operation, the data response ~~being in appropriate format~~ having a format that is compatible with the client application;
  3. writing data in appropriate formats in the target database, and building a data response to the write data request, the data response having a format that is compatible with the client application; and
  4. transmitting the data responses to the server; and
- e. communicating between the target database and the data view apparatus.

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58 (currently amended) The data storage medium in claim 57, the application program interfacing method further comprising:

monitoring all received [[data]] requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and, in response to an application trigger, to generate and transmit an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application.

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59 (canceled)

60 (original) The data storage medium of claim 57 where the client application is selected from the group comprising, insurance company applications, after market store applications, bank applications, motor vehicle agency applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, vehicle dealer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

61 (currently amended) The data storage medium of claim 57, further including means for checking access authorization of the [[data]] request.

62 (original) The data storage medium of claim 57, where the first means for checking the security authorization comprises an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

63 (currently amended) The data storage medium of claim 57, wherein the first and second means for checking security authorization authenticates the [[data]] request for authority to access a database and data elements in the database.

64 (original) The data storage medium of claim 57, where the access component is selected from the group comprising: ODBC, JDBC, Java adapter, and OLE DB.

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65 (currently amended) The data storage medium of claim 57, where the [[data]] request and data ~~transmission~~ response are transmitted using one means from the group comprising: the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, optic fibers, dial-up, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

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